RAJYA SABHA

Thursday, the 6th March, 1997/
15th Phalguna, 1918 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock, **Mr. Chairman,** in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Requirement of Electricity in the Country by 2000 A.D.

*181. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH KALYAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total estimated requirement of electricity in the country by 2000 AD, State-wise;

(b) the quantum of electricity being produced by the power plants in the country, State-wise; and

(c) the effective measures being taken by Government to fulfil the demand of electricity in the entire country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) to (c) The projected peak load and energy requirement in the country by the year 1999-2000 as per the 15th Electric Power Survey Report is 84466 MW and 502254 Million Units respectively. The State-wise details of energy requirement, energy available and effective measures being taken by Government to fulfil the demand for electricity are given in the Statement laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Requirement of Electricity in the Country by 2000 AD.

(a) The State-wise details of peak load and energy requirement in the year 1999-2000 are at given in the enclosed statement 'A'

(b) The State-wise quantum of energy available during 1995-96 is given in the enclosed Statement 'B'.

(c) To meet the projected demand, Government have initiated various steps which, inter-alia, include addition of capacity, encouraging private sector participation in power generation, better demandside management, energy conservation measures, renovation and modernisation of existing plants, reduction of transmission and distribution losses and effective utilisation of generation by transfer of power from surplus regions, if any, to deficit regions through inter-regional links.

Statement 'A'

Requirement of Electricity in the Country by 2000 A.D.

Sl. No.	Name of State	Requirement of Electricity (Public utilities) 1999-00)	
		Energy Requirement (MUs)	Peak Demand (MW)
1.	Haryana	21112	3977
2.	Himachal Pradesh	3240	698
3.	Jammu & Kashmir	5912	1350
4.	Punjab	28551	5228
5.	Rajasthan	27543	4850

Sl. No.	Name of State	Requirement of Electricity (Public utilities 1999-00)	
		Energy Requirement (MUs)	Peak Demand (MW)
6.	Uttar Pradesh	52410	9712
7.	Chandigarh	810	162
8.	Delhi	18039	3037
9.	Gujarat	43467	7191
10.	Madhya Pradesh	37856	6263
11.	Maharashtra	73349	11629
12.	Goa	1290	262
13.	Daman & Diu	521	86
14.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	817	130
15.	Andhra Pradesh	40689	6732
16.	Karnataka	27879	4859
17.	Kerala	13617	2763
18.	Tamil Nadu	36526	5957
19.	Pondicherry	1784	304
20.	Bihar	10765	2048
21.	Orissa	16041	2616
22.	West Bengal	20766	3971
23.	Sikkim	116	40
24.	D.V.C.	11950	2200
25.	Arunachal Pradesh	273	74
26.	Assam	4427	884
27.	Manipur	563	156
28.	Meghalaya	561	124
29.	Mizoram	396	119
30.	Nagaland	235	60
31.	Tripura	579	153
32.	Andaman & Nicobar	147	34
33.	Lakshadweep	23	7
	TOTAL ALL INDIA	502254	84466

Statement 'B'

Requirement of Electricity in the Country by 2000 AD

Sl. No.	Name of State	Energy availability (1995-96) (MUs)
1.	Haryana	12639
2.	Himachal Pradesh	2209
3.	Jammu & Kashmir	3309
4.	Punjab	19981
5.	Rajasthan	18661
6.	Uttar Pradesh	34279
7.	Chandigarh	811
8.	Delhi	13145
9.	Gujarat	34733
10.	Madhya Pradesh	28059
11.	Maharashtra	54798
12.	Goa	1149
13.	Andhra Pradesh	29367
14.	Karnataka	19125
15.	Kerala	9288
16.	Tamil Nadu	30145
17.	Bihar	6692
18.	Orissa	9648
19.	West Bengal	14090
20.	D.V.C.	8007
21.	Arunachal Pradesh	104.3
22.	Assam	2509.2
23.	Manipur	319.6
24.	Meghalaya	382.8
25.	Mizoram	136.3
26.	Nagaland	140.9
27.	Tripura	317.1
	TOTAL ALL INDIA	354045

श्री मोहिन्दर सिंह कल्याण: सर, मेरी माननीय मिनिस्टर साहब से आपके जरिए से अरदास है कि इन्होंने जो डाटा बिजली पैदा करने का दिया है, मैं समझता हूं कि यह डाटा दुरुस्त नहीं है। इन्होंने जो बिजली पैदा करने का डाटा दिया है इसमें 12 स्टेट्स ऐसे हैं जिन्होंने हमारी जो एनटीपीसी है उसका कर्जा देना है। इन्होंने उत्तर में लिखा है कि अगर ये राज्य कर्जा नहीं देंगे या ड्यूज को वापस नहीं करेंगे तो हम इन्हें एक भी पैसा देने के लिए तैयार नहीं हैं। उत्तर प्रदेश पर 362, दिल्ली पर 183, बिहार पर 328, जम्मू और कश्मीर पर 245, मध्य प्रदेश पर 219, राजस्थान पर 192, महाराष्ट्र पर 152, उड़ीसा पर 132, गुजरात पर 199, आसाम पर 60 और आन्ध्र प्रदेश पर 15 ड्यूज बनता है और इसका टोटल अमाउन्ट 3,460 करोड़ रुपये बनता है। यह जो उसका अमाउन्ट ड्यू है उसे ये राज्य पे नहीं करेंगे तो ये कैसे अपने टारगेट को पूरा करेंगे? मैं मंत्री जी से पूछना चाहता हूं कि यह जो घाटा है इसको ये कैसे पूरा करने जा रहे हैं?

DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI: Sir, the hon. Member has expressed his dissatisfaction with regard to the surveys Generally the Central Electricity Authority undertakes surveys by taking into consideration the various factors like categories of power — domestic, commercial and miscellaneous — public lighting, public water works, industrial and railway traction and bulk supply to non-industrial consumers. They also identify the State-wise necessity in this regard. After taking into consideration all these factors, the CEA finalises its report which is called the EPS Report.

Sir, the hon. Member has rightly mentioned the question of arrears. So far the Electricity Boards have to pay arrears of around Rs. 15,000 crores. These arrears are not only on account of power but also include arrears which they have to pay to the Railway Ministry, Coal Ministry, Transport Ministry, etc. If they have to pay Rs. 15,000 crores, how can the NTPC meet their further requirements? There is also pressure from the World Bank. How can the NTPC meet their requirements if the arrears are not cleared? Sir, we have taken a decision in

the Cabinet. We also discussed the same with the Chief Ministers of the concerned States. We are also going to deduct upto 50 per cent of the Plan allocation in consultation with the Chief Ministers of the concerned States.

The second thing is, we awarded the cash-and-carry system. If a State like Punjab requires the power, then it has to pay the current arrears, it has to pay the dues and open a letter of credit; only after that we will supply power. We have taken these decisions to make Electricity Boards viable and economical.

श्री मोहिन्दर सिंह कल्याण: सर, मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहता हूं कि सितम्बर, 1991 में इन्होंने एक नई इकनोमिक पॉलिसी बनाई है जिसके तहत मुखतलिफ स्टेट्स के लिए ज्यादा बिजली पैदा करने के साधन बढ़ाये हैं। आपने जो प्राइवेट सैक्टर्स द्वारा बिजली पैदा करने का प्रोग्राम बनाया है उसमें बाहर की कम्पनियां हैं, कितनी कम्पनियों की प्रोपोजल्स आपके पास आई हैं और कौन-कौन से काम आपने शुरू किए हैं? क्या इससे बिजली के उत्पादन में बढ़ोत्तरी हुई है? उसको चैक करने के लिए कमेटी बनाई गई है। बिजली की बढ़ोत्तरी के लिए, उसकी पैदावार के लिए आपने क्या-क्या वसीले पैदा किये हैं?

DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI: Sir, the hon. Member and the august House know very well that in the year 1991, privatisation or what we call it as globalisation, entered India in the power sector. I think, at that time, we did not have sufficient experience in private power and our Electricity Board authorities were also not having sufficient experience. Seeing the scenario since 1991, recently, after formation of this Government we have taken a lot of initiatives. The hon. Prime Minister himself is holding the Cabinet charge of this Ministry. He has convened two meetings with all Chief Ministers within a span of eight months. He has convened two meetings with all. All Chief Ministers expressed a consensus, irrespective of their political affiliations, on seeing the growing demand and supply of power in the country, they arrived at a consensus, irrespective of their political affiliations. We prepared a Common Minimum National Action Plan. The same has been circulated to all the State Governments. All Chief Ministers and Power Ministers of the States agreed with the Common Minimum National Action Plan. Under this Common Minimum National Action Plan we are preparing the National Exim Policy and for setting up an independent Regulatory Commission — one at the State level and one at the Central level. And, by this, we are bringing about rationalisation of retail tariff. There is a provision for private participation, distribution as well as generation. Now, the hon. President has issued an amendment to the Electric Supply Acts of 1910 and 1948 to facilitate transmission licences in the private sector. We are encouraging the Electricity Boards to promote co-generation and captive-generation and for whatever power they produce, they need not come to the Centre. We delegated the powers to the States. We are allowing short gestation projects. We have allowed Naphta recently. Like that, we want to promote short gestation projects. We have taken a lot of initiatives. Private participation in respect of the Power Policy of the Government of India is encouraging. So far, 128 proposals with an installed capacity of 70,000 MW with an investment of about Rs. 2.5 lakh crores have been received. Out of these, 20 schemes costing above Rs. 100 crores have been accorded techno-economic clearance and 76 schemes have been accorded in-principle clearance and we have fixed 31-03-1997 for submission of detailed project reports by private firms. So far, projects of 3,700 MW capacity are under construction in various parts of the country under private participation.

श्री मोहिन्दर सिंह कल्याण: सर, इसी से जुड़ा मेरा एक सवाल और है। मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूं कि जो ऐसी 17 स्टेट्स हैं जहां पर इलेक्ट्रिसिटी बोर्ड अभी तक नहीं बनाये हैं...

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have finished your supplementaries. Your second supplementary is also over.

SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA: Sir, there is an acute shortage of power in Andhra Pradesh. Power cut has been resorted to under compelling circumstances. In this regard, I would like to point out that the Hinduja National Power Corporation Limited is establishing a thermal power project of 2 × 500 MW capacity at Visakhapatnam in order to meet the growing demand for power in the State. The company has already presented a detailed project report to the Government of India for clearance. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what is the position in regard to the clearance of the project, in order to meet the shortage of power in Andhra Pradesh.

DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI: Sir, as the hon. Member rightly pointed out, since 'electricity' comes under the Concurrent List — where both the Centre and the States can legislate — so far, since the advent of private participation in India, the expansion is more in the Central sector — there is more generation in the Central sector — compared to the States. Nearly 35 per cent of the generation is in the Central Sector.

As far as Andhra Pradesh is concerned, we have many proposals. In regard to the Hinduja company's proposal, it has not yet been cleared by the Cabinet, due to some constraints in relation to the Ministry of Coal as well as the Ministry of Railways, about the question of predetermined liquidity damages. A sub-committee has been formed to identify the areas. As soon as the sub-committee gives its report, we will send the proposal to the Cabinet for clearance.

श्री महेश्वर सिंह: सभापति महोदय, जो आंकड़े माननीय मंत्री महोदय ने सभा पटल पर रखे हैं, वे बहुत ही चिन्ताजनक हैं और जो उत्पादन आज बिजली का हो रहा है वह बहुत ही निराशाजनक है। महोदय, मंत्री महोदय ने कहा है कि 2000 ईस्वी तक जो बिजली की आवश्यकता होगी वह 502254 मेगावाट होगी और देश में जो उत्पादन हो रहा है वह केवल 354045 मेगावाट हो रहा है। महोदय, मैं मंत्री महोदय के ध्यान में लाना चाहूंगा कि ताप विद्युत परियोजनाओं की तुलना में जल विद्युत परियोजनायें अधिक एको-फ्रेंडली हैं और उसका कास्ट आफ जनरेशन भी तुलनात्मक दृष्टि से कम है। खेद का विषय है कि जितना ध्यान जल विद्युत परियोजनाओं की तरफ होना चाहिए, उतना नहीं है। महोदय, पहाड़ों में बहुत पानी है और वहां छोटे-छोटे चेक डाम बनाकर बिजली पैदा करना अधिक सरल और सस्ता है। इससे न तो भूमि जल मग्न होती है और न ही उससे वन सम्पदा नष्ट होती है। तो मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूं कि पहाड़ों में जहां जहां इस प्रकार की क्षमता है वहां शतप्रतिशत अनुदान देकर फ्लोइंग वाटर से बिजली उत्पादन को आप प्रोत्साहित करेंगे ताकि ऐसे प्रांतों में अधिक से अधिक बिजली पैदा की जा सके?

DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI: Sir, so far, out of the total installed capacity of 80,000 odd MW of power, a major portion has come from the thermal source because India has sufficient quantity of coal.

After this Government came to power, we appointed a Committee, known as the Sambamurthy Committee, to give more emphasis to the hydro sector. The hon. Member must be aware that in Arunachal Pradesh, there is sufficient potential to generate nearly 30,000 MW of hydel power. Similarly, we have got potential in Himachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir. As you know, recently, the hon. Prime Minister, during his visit to Jammu and Kashmir, dedicated the Uri Project to the nation. At that time, he announced Rs. 500 crores for the Dulhasti project. Not only Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Arunachal Pradesh. In fact, in the case of the whole of the North-Eastern Region, the Government is committed to generate power, using the hydel resource. We are awaiting the report of the Sambamurthy Committee. After we get the report, we will give more emphasis to this sector. As far as the question of generation of power in

the hill areas, from the flowing waters, is concerned, we are promoting projects, not only through the conventional methods, but through non-conventional methods also, up to 15 MW, we are promoting projects.

श्री महेश्वर सिंह: महोदय, मेरे प्रश्न का उत्तर नहीं आया। मैंने मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहा था कि जो फ्लोइंग वाटर है, छोटे-छोटे चेक डाम बनाकर उससे बिजली का उत्पादन किया जा सकता है। तो जो प्रांत ऐसा करने के लिए तैयार हैं उनको प्रोत्साहित करने के लिए क्या आप शतप्रतिशत अनुदान देंगे, विशेषकर हिमाचल प्रदेश को।

DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI: Sir, providing 100 per cent grant is not possible, but, I think, by looking at the State's situation, we will examine it.

SHRI JAYANT KUMAR MALHOUTRA: Sir, a lot of attention is being given to creating new plants only. We are very weak on the side of management of existing projects. Will the hon. Minister let us know what attempts are being made to improve the management of the existing plants. For instance, the installed capacity in U.P. is 6,000 megawatts, but the generation is only 1,800 magawatts, and the transmission loss is over 27 per cent. We have States where we have well-managed power plants. Why are we not taking advantage of the management situation existing in States like Maharashtra etc. and improve the situation in badly managed States like Uttar Pradesh and Bihar where the power generation is extremely poor? Is any attempt being made to improve the generation in the existing units over there because, if you put up new plants, it is going to take three to five years, whereas repairing and improving the management can be done within six to nine months?

DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI: Sir, I agree with the hon. Member. The plant load factor in U.P. has increased by 14 per cent in the last few months. compared with the earlier period also, the PLF in U.P. and other States has increased. About making the electricity Boards viable, we are emphasising in a very big way on renovation and modernisation programmes. In the Eighth Plan also, we have programme for about a hundred projects for renovation and modernisation. In the Ninth Plan, we are laying more emphasis on it. We are providing the funds also. In addition to that, we are asking the Electricity Boards to produce capacitors and install capacitors. We are taking up renovation and modernisation programmes also, and we are providing funds also.

In addition to that, we are asking the Electricity Boards to privatise one of the distributions areas and to identify the areas that should be distributed to the private sector.

SHRI S.M. KRISHNA: Sir, the scenario on the power front looks bleaker and bleaker. The time is not too far off when there is going to be darkness at noon in India. The Ninth Plan projects generation of 55,000 megawatts of power, out of which 27,000 megawatts of power is to come from the private sector. I want to know from the Government whether this projection is a feasible proposition in the light of our own experience in the Eighth Five-Year Plan.

A cut-off date has been imposed by the Government of India on all the States for making their propositions. We hear from the States that there have been bureaucratic and other delays at the Government of India level, whereas, when we ask the Government of India, they say that the State Governments have been very lethargic in coming forward with their projects. I want to know what exactly the position is. Is the Government of India looking into the state of affairs of the various Electricity Boards? Is the Government of India willing to take recourse to financial emergency with reference to the State Electricity Boards.?

DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI: Sir, Mr. Krishna has rightly mentioned it. At the time of Independence, it was about

1300 magawatts. We have achieved more then 80,000 megawatts so far. No doubt, compared with other developing countries, it is a good generation, but, due to our growing demand, the gap is becoming wider and wider day by day. The hon. Member has rightly mentioned about the bureaucratic delays and everything else. It is only looking at this scenario that we have finalised the Common Minimum National Action Plan. All Chief Ministers have agreed to it. The major reasons for delay in the coming up of projects are delays in land-acquisition, putting up infrastructure etc. So many reasons are there. But we are expecting better results now compared with the Eighth Plan. We have gained experience during the Eighth Five-Year Plan and also have had representations from I.P.P.S. After liberalisation we have been delegating more powers to the States and have also taken a lot of initiatives like restructuring the Electricity Boards, rational fixation of tariff and improvement of the operation and other maintenance capacities. We expect capacity of 1953 magawatts of capacity in the private sector in the eighth plan. In fact, we expect them to generate more. Previously power companies were expressing their inability because for every project they had to come for grant of permission to the Central Electricity Authority which, before we came to power, was dealing with almost every case of granting permission. After this Government came to power, we minimised the number of permissions and restricted it. Like that in all the areas, whether it is the area of granting permissions or the area of speedy implementations, we have taken a lot of initiatives. With this I hope the private participation will be better now compared to what it was during the Eight Five-Year Plan.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We have taken 20 minutes on this question. question No. 182. Hon. Members are absent.

*182. *[The questioners (Shri Surinder Kumar Singla and Dr. Shrikant Ramachandra Jichkar) were absent for answer, vide Col. 35 infra]*

Norms for operation of Private Corporates in the Power Transmission

*183. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:† SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up an expert committee to work out the norms for operation of private corporates in the power transmission business, as reported in the Hindustan Times dated the 18th February, 1997;

(b) how much time Government are likely to take for selection of private companies for award of transmission contracts, including principles for bid solicitation and evaluation tariffs. etc.;

(c) whether Government propose to enact any legislation for recognition of transmission as a separate business activity, distinct from generation and distribution, during the current Budget Session;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the response of private sector entrepreneurs thereto, indicating the specific projects offered, the number and details of applicants and Government's decision in respect thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) Yes, Sir. A Committee of Experts has been constituted on 17th February, 1997 to suggest guidelines for determination of tariff having regard to operational parameters such as line availability.

(b) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(b) A legal framework has now been established for promoting transmission

†The Questions was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Ramdas Agarwal.